

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the following, deleted text appears struck through and inserted text appears underlined.

Please amend paragraph[0038] as follows:

[0038] Figures 3-4 represent the results of transdermal delivery of a plasmid containing the transgene for E. coli beta-galactosidase as described in Example 2. “AK1” refers to a group of experimental animals treated with βgal plasmid and peptidyl carrier KNR2 at a charge ratio of 4:1; “AL1” refers to a group of experimental animals treated with βgal plasmid and peptidyl carrier K2 at a charge ratio of 4:1; “AM1” refers to a group of experimental animals treated with βgal plasmid and Superfect at a charge ratio of 5:1.

Please amend paragraph [0039] as follows:

[0039] Figure 5 represents the results of transdermal delivery of a plasmid containing the transgene for E. coli beta-galactosidase as described in Example 3. “AK1” refers to a group of experimental animals treated with βgal plasmid and peptidyl carrier KNR2 at a charge ratio of 4:1; “AL1” refers to a group of experimental animals treated with βgal plasmid and peptidyl carrier K2 at a charge ratio of 4:1.

Please amend paragraph [0040] as follows:

[0040]Figure 6 represents the results of transdermal delivery of a plasmid containing the transgene for E. coli beta-galactosidase as described in Example 4. “AS” refers to a group of experimental animals treated with βgal plasmid and control non-peptidyl carrier polyethyleneimine (PEI) at a charge ratio of 5:1; “AT” refers to a group of experimental animals treated with βgal plasmid and a non-peptidyl carrier assembled by covalently attaching -

Gly₃Arg₇ to PEI (PEIR) at a charge ratio of 5:1; “AU” refers to a group of experimental animals treated with β gal plasmid and highly purified Essentia nonpeptidyl carrier PEIR (pure PEIR) at a charge ratio of 5:1.

Please amend paragraph [0041] as follows:

[0041] Figure 7 represents the results of transdermal delivery of a botulinum toxin as described in Example 5. “EB-btox” refers to a group of experimental animals treated with biotinylated botulinum toxin (Btox-b) and peptidyl carrier (KNR) assembled by covalently attaching -Gly₃Arg₇ to polylysine; “nl” refers to a group of experimental animals treated with biotinylated botulinum toxin (Btox-b) and control peptidyl carrier (K) of unmodified polylysine.

Please amend paragraph [0043] as follows:

[0043] Figure. 9A to D is a photographic depiction that the imaging complexes of Example 9 follow the brightfield distribution (panels a and c) for melanoma pigmented cells with fluorescent optical imaging agents (panels b and d) for two different fields and different magnifications (panels a and b at 10X versus panels c and d at 40X magnifications).